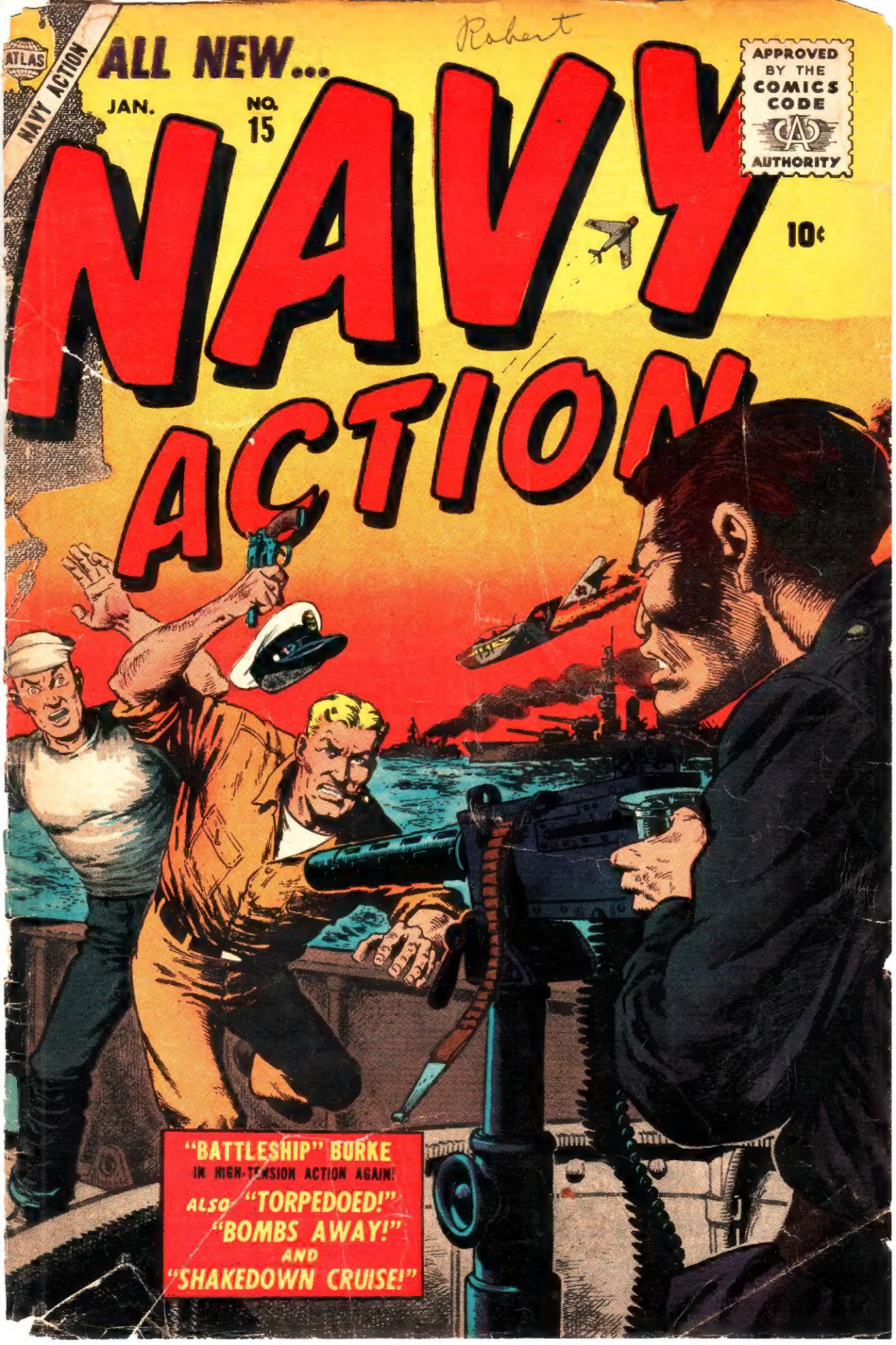
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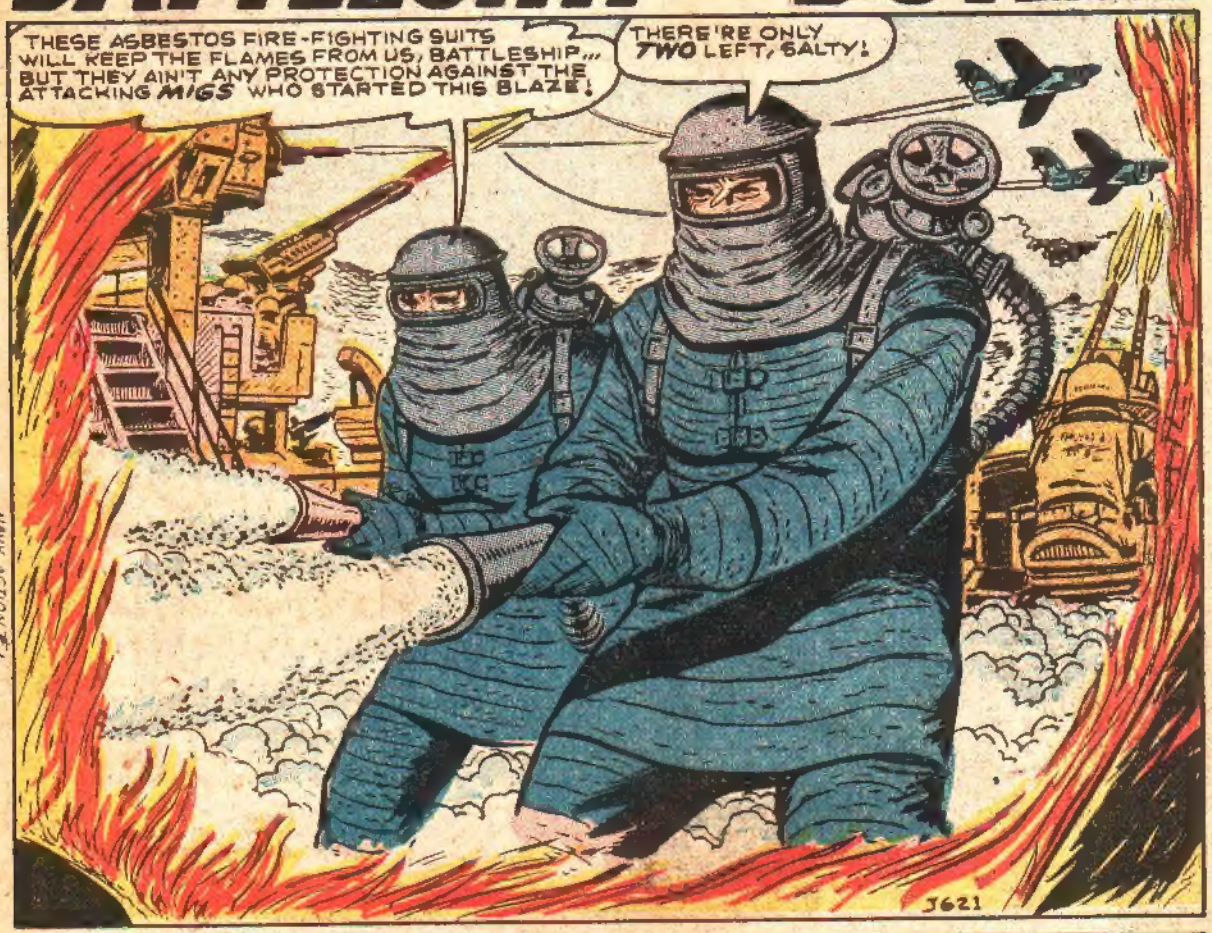
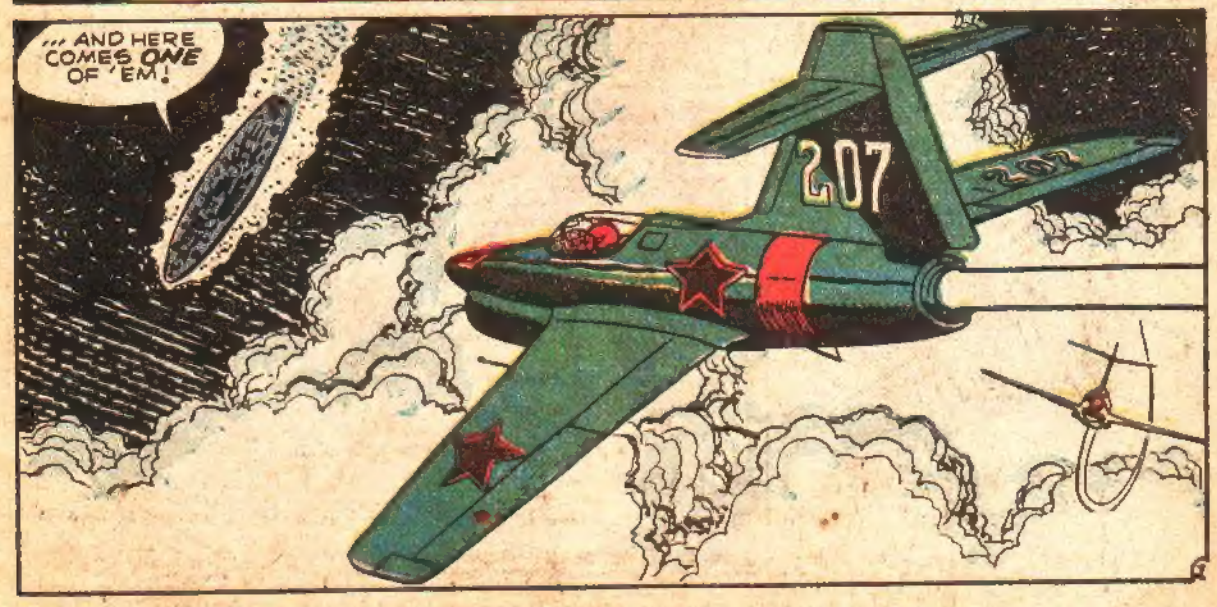
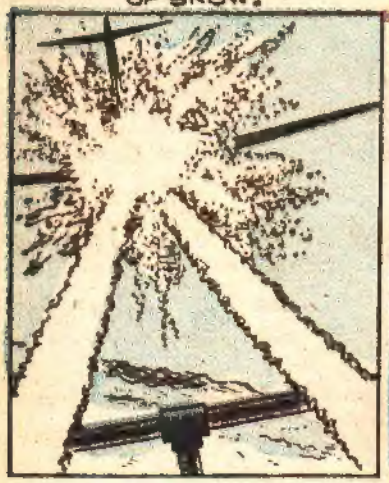
JOIN THE NAVY CREW AND BE SHIPMATES IN BATTLE ADVENTURES WITH...

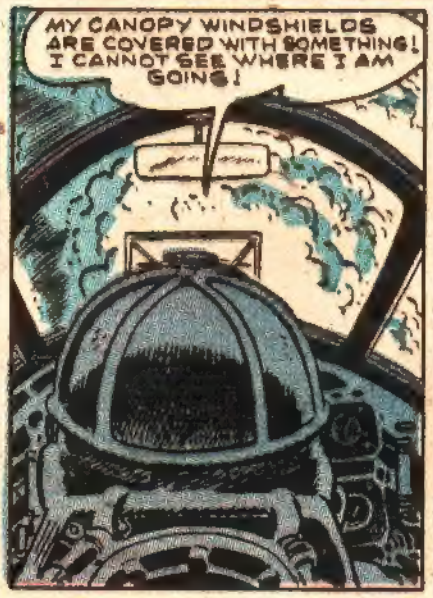
"BATTLESHIP" BURKE


THESE ASBESTOS FIRE-FIGHTING SUITS WILL KEEP THE FLAMES FROM US, BATTLESHIP... BUT THEY AIN'T ANY PROTECTION AGAINST THE ATTACKING MIGS WHO STARTED THIS BLAZE!
THERE'RE ONLY TWO LEFT, SALTY!
J621

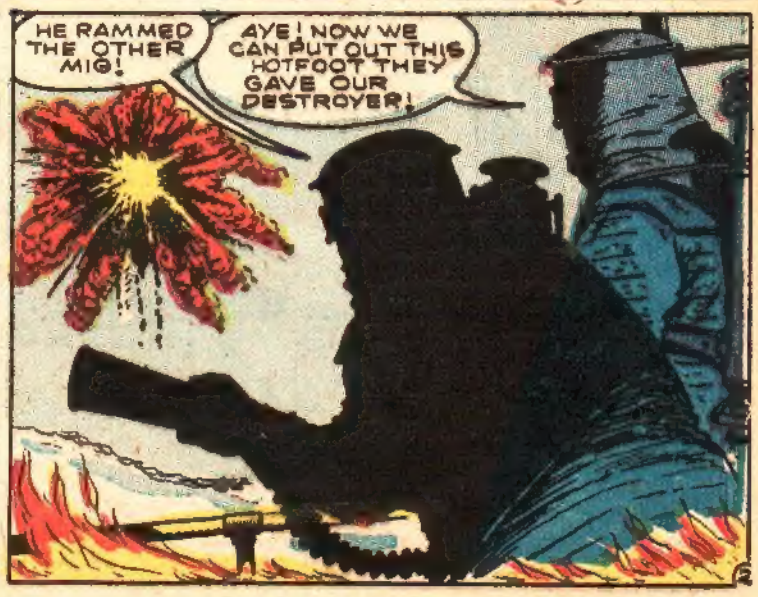


THE NEXT BLASTS OF THICK *FOAMITE*, WHICH IS USED TO SMOTHER FLAMES ABOARD SHIPS, HIT THE SECOND *MIG* LIKE A BLINDING BLIZZARD OF SNOW!





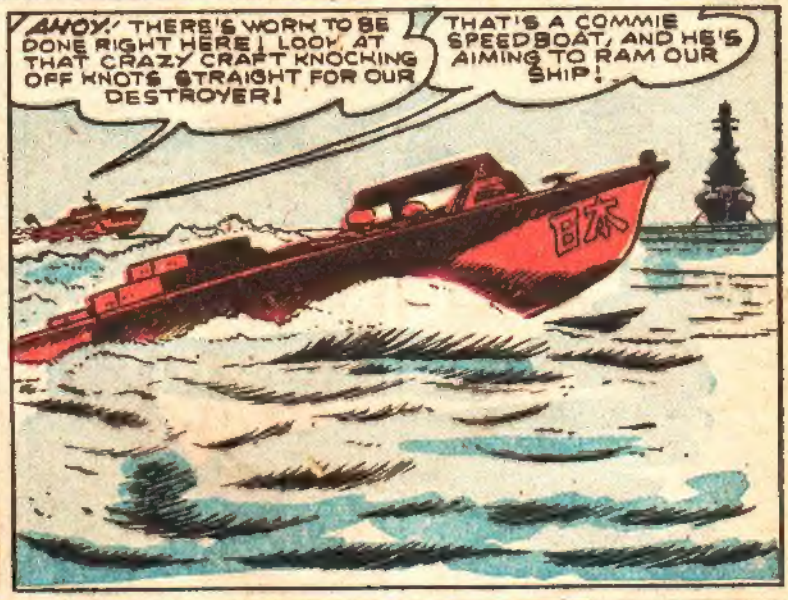
BUT THE *OTHER MIG* WAS THERE AND ITS PILOT YELLED A FRANTIC WARNING!



AFTER THE FIRE HAD BEEN PUT OUT AND THINGS ABOARD WERE BEING PUT BACK SHIPSHAPE, THE COMMANDER PREPARED TO GO ASHORE...

I'M GOING TO THE U.N. HEADQUARTERS THERE AND I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG MY DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE ATTACK AND A WAY TO PREVENT FUTURE ONES WILL TAKE, SO YOU BETTER RETURN TO THE SHIP AFTER YOU LEAVE ME OFF!
USN

YOU'D THINK HE'D LET US WAIT FOR HIM IN TOWN SO WE COULD HAVE SOME FUN!
THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE ABOARD AFTER THAT MIG ATTACK, SALTY!


AHOY! THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE RIGHT HERE! LOOK AT THAT CRAZY CRAFT KNOCKING OFF KNOTS STRAIGHT FOR OUR DESTROYER!
THAT'S A COMMIE SPEEDBOAT, AND HE'S AIMING TO RAM OUR SHIP!
BZK

COMRADE LIEUTENANT, OBSERVE! A YANKEE BOAT COMES TO INTERFERE WITH OUR MISSION TO BLOW UP THE AMERICAN DESTROYER BY SLAMMING INTO IT!
OPEN FIRE ON THEM! WE DO NOT WANT TO WASTE OUR BOAT-LOAD OF EXPLOSIVES ON THEM!

THE SHARP TURN SPILLED THE COMMIE PUTT-PUTT BATTLESHIP!
AYE! AND ALSO ALL THE T.N.T. BUNDLES THEY HAD IN IT TO BLOW UP OUR DESTROYER! WE'LL GO BACK AND FISH THE REDS OUT OF THE DRINK!
USN10
WATCH OUT, SALTY... THEY'VE BOTH GOT GUNS!
NOT ANY MORE, THEY DON'T!
WE SURRENDER!
YOU BET YOUR LIVES YOU DO!
WE SAW WHAT HAPPENED, CHIEF! YOU TWO PREVENTED THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS DESTROYER BY OVERTURNING THEIR BOAT-BOMB!
WE'LL TAKE THE PRISONERS DOWN TO THE BRIG, SIR, UNTIL THE COMMANDER...
THEY'RE MAKING A BREAK!
NOW WE WILL GIVE THE ORDERS!
AND YOU WILL OBEY... OR THIS GUN WILL RAKE THE DECKS!

AND YOU, LIEUTENANT, GO TO THE TUBE AND ORDER YOUR ENGINE ROOM TO GET UP STEAM! WE'RE GOING TO TAKE THIS DESTROYER TO NORTH KOREA!
GO JUMP INTO THE OCEAN, COMMIE!
BURKE CPO

WHILE THE COMMIE THREATENED THE U.S. NAVY OFFICER, BATTLESHIP BURKE'S HANDS WERE ON THE CONTROLS OF ONE OF THE FOAMITE TANKS BEHIND HIM...

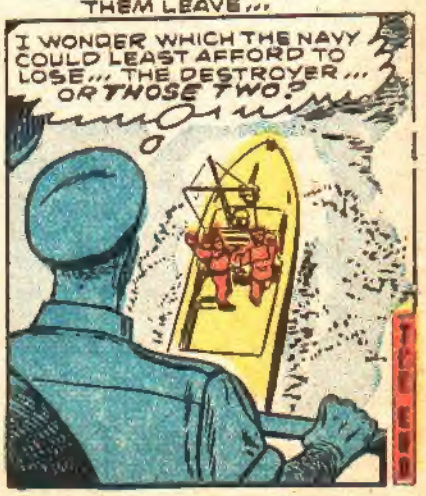
THE HOSE IS STILL ATTACHED, AND THE NOZZLE IS POINTING RIGHT TOWARD THE COMMIES! ONE TWIST WILL MAKE THE STUFF SHOOT OUT!
BURKE

LIKE A STREAK OF ALABASTER LIGHTNING, THE FOAMITE STRUCK OUT OF THE POISED NOZZLE!

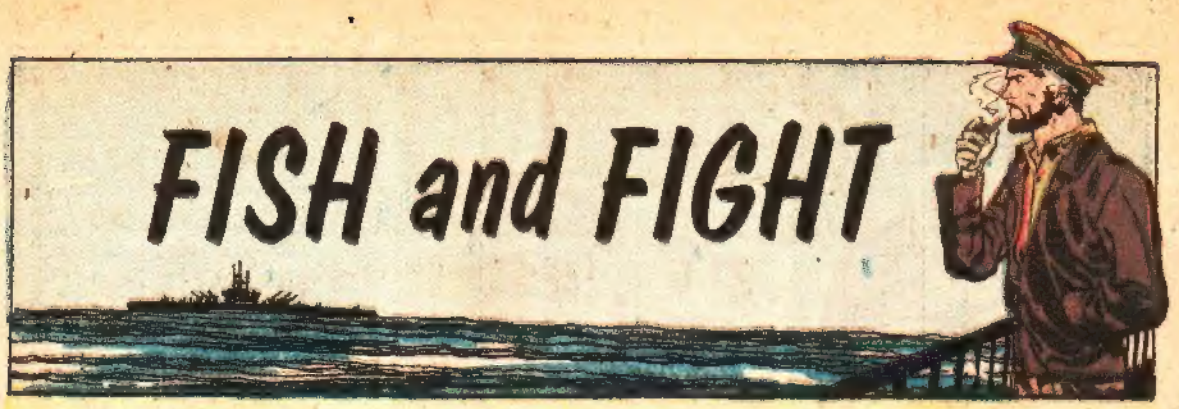
THEN BATTLESHIP GRABBED UP THE HOSE AND CHARGED IN!

WHEN THE COMMIES GOT THE FOAMITE OUT OF THEIR EYES, THEY SAW THAT THEY WERE IN THE BRIG...

BY THEN IT WAS TIME FOR BATTLESHIP BURKE AND SALTY SMITH TO GO BACK TO PICK UP THEIR SKIPPER! THE PROUD LIEUTENANT WATCHED THEM LEAVE...



FISH and FIGHT



THE man walked down the street of Hartlepool, England, until he came to the third of the buildings that abutted on the docks. A sign over the door said: FISHING TRAWLERS, STANLEY LTD. He paused, for he limped. Passersby hardly gave him a glance. It was common to see wounded men in the Spring of 1916 in Britain. He was fairly young, stood with a ramrod bearing and his eyes were grave.

Then, a li[illegible]haltingly, he mounted the stairs.

There was only one attendant in the office on the second floor. He was surprised to see a man sitting behind the desk, for women had taken over almost all the peacetime jobs.

"Captain Stanley, please," the man said, glancing at the other.

The man at the desk looked up.

"And who shall I say is calling?"

"Naval Lieutenant Brassard . . ." His voice hesitated. "Better say Ex-Lieutenant Brassard."

The other disappeared behind a door, returned a moment later. He held it open and Brassard went in. At another desk, a short, bearded man sat smoking. Like Brassard he had a nautical cut. Without a word he held out a hand. Also without a word, Brassard handed him a packet of papers. Captain Stanley read them quickly. He nodded to a chair.

"Experienced man I see," he said, finally.

"Three ships torpedoed under me, sir," Brassard said.

"And you still want another go at the Kaiser's fleet?"

Brassard nodded.

"The regular Navy won't have me, sir," he said. "That last fuss invalided me permanently. But I can still navigate." His face suddenly crisped in puzzlement. "But the chaps down at the Admiralty told me I'd see service, in a way, if I came to you. How does a fellow see naval service in a fishing trawler?"

Captain Stanley's face was a mask. Then, almost abruptly he smiled.

"I can't tell you that yet," he said. "Not yet, until you've *seen* the service." He paused and then went on, "We're engaged in fishing." His eyes danced with humor. "As never before, England needs fish for food."

"Off a Channel Port, sir?" Brassard asked. "Why the Channel's alive with German U-boats. I thought most of our trawling was done in the Irish sea now."

"There's still some in the Channel."

"But I don't understand! You can't venture twenty miles off coast without meeting U-boats." Brassard's eyes again were puzzled. "Surely you don't do it with a convoy?"

"We don't need convoys. Look here." Stanley stood up and led the way to a window overlooking the harbor. He pointed. "See that boat down there, the *Arethusa?* That's ours."

"She's big . . . biggest trawler I've ever seen," Brassard said.

"Yes," Stanley mused. "She carries a lot of fish." Abruptly he returned to his desk. "All right, you're engaged as navigator. But there's one thing you'll have to remember, Lieutenant Brassard."

"Yes, sir?"

"While you're on board, for this first voyage anyway, you're to keep to your bunk and to the bridge with me. No going below decks. Honor bright?"

Brassard hesitated only a moment.

"Honor bright, sir," he said, and shook Captain Stanley's hand.

Next morning at six, the Arethusa got under way. Hartlepool, at the head of the Umber river, was quickly passed. Brassard, on the small bridge with Stanley, and Wedgley, the sole mate, worked skillfully on the charts. Coming aboard, he'd hardly had a chance to get more than his sea bearings. He knew what trawlers looked like, knew how they worked at sea. The Arethusa, plainly enough, was a trawler. The odor of fish clung to her. Her crew was large and busy on decks. Almost too large, Brassard had decided, after glimpsing them on the forward deck, making everything shipshape. Men weren't as plentiful as all that, to waste on a mere trawling expedition, when they could be infinitely more useful at the front or aboard naval craft, or simply in factories. He wondered what the secret of the craft was. Perhaps, he thought, the Arethusa was a kind of bait . . . maybe, behind her would come torpedo boats to waylay the arrogant U-craft that infested the Channel waters.

He bent again to the charts.

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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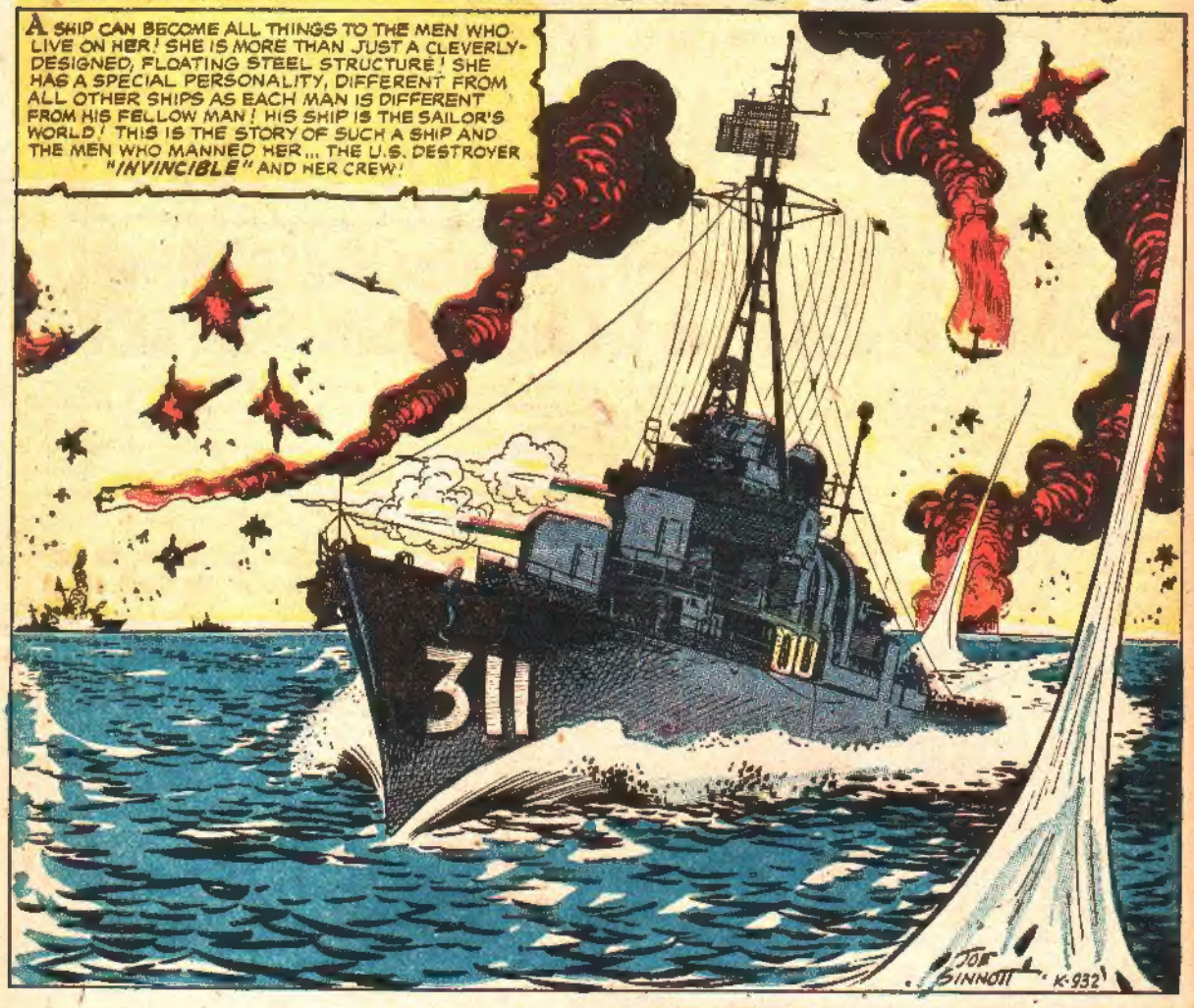
City_____ State_____

TORPEDOED!

A SHIP CAN BECOME ALL THINGS TO THE MEN WHO LIVE ON HER! SHE IS MORE THAN JUST A CLEVERLY-DESIGNED, FLOATING STEEL STRUCTURE! SHE HAS A SPECIAL PERSONALITY, DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER SHIPS AS EACH MAN IS DIFFERENT FROM HIS FELLOW MAN! HIS SHIP IS THE SAILOR'S WORLD! THIS IS THE STORY OF SUCH A SHIP AND THE MEN WHO MANNED HER... THE U.S. DESTROYER "*INVINCIBLE*" AND HER CREW!

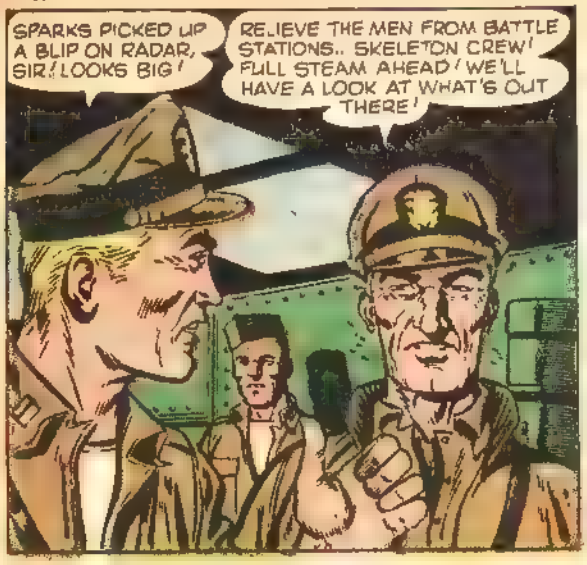


THIS IS CAPTAIN ANSON HALL, SKIPPER OF THE "*INVINCIBLE*"! THE DESTROYER HAD DONE CONVOY DUTY TO KOREA, HAD FOUGHT ALONG THE COAST AND THREE WEEKS EARLIER HAD LEFT PUSAN HARBOR, STALKING RED GAME...

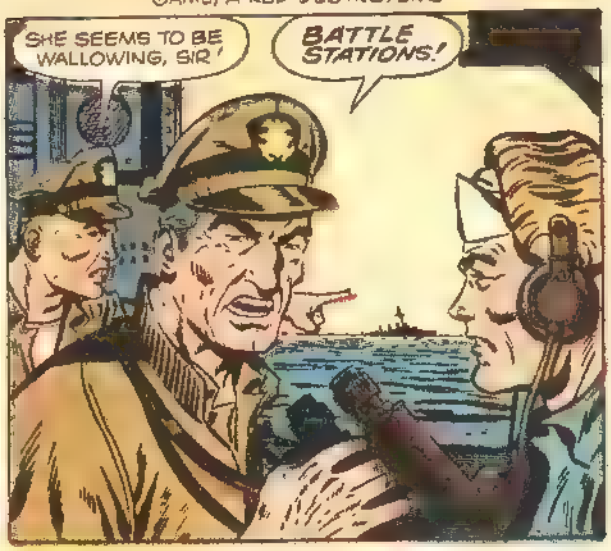
WELL, THE "OLD GIRL" HAS DONE IT AGAIN!
NEVER BEEN ANOTHER LIKE THE "INVINCIBLE", SIR! I'LL BET THE REDS SHIVER WHEN THEY HEAR HER NAME!

GOOD OLD "*INVINCIBLE*"! A LADY AND A FIGHTER! SHE'S MY BEST GIRL!
SHE'S A PIN-UP TO EVERY MAN ABOARD! THEY PUT SOMETHING IN HER THAT NO OTHER SHIP EVER HAD... AND THEN THEY BROKE THE MOLD!

YES, TO THE MEN AND OFFICERS, SHE WAS THE GREATEST...


SPARKS PICKED UP A BLIP ON RADAR, SIR! LOOKS BIG!
RELIEVE THE MEN FROM BATTLE STATIONS.. SKELETON CREW! FULL STEAM AHEAD! WE'LL HAVE A LOOK AT WHAT'S OUT THERE!

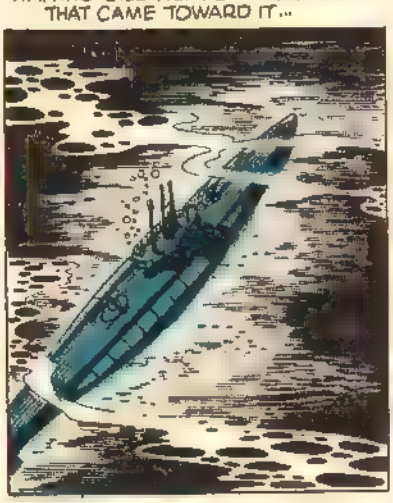
TWO HOURS LATER, THE *"INVINCIBLE"* SIGHTED HER GAME, A RED DESTROYER...



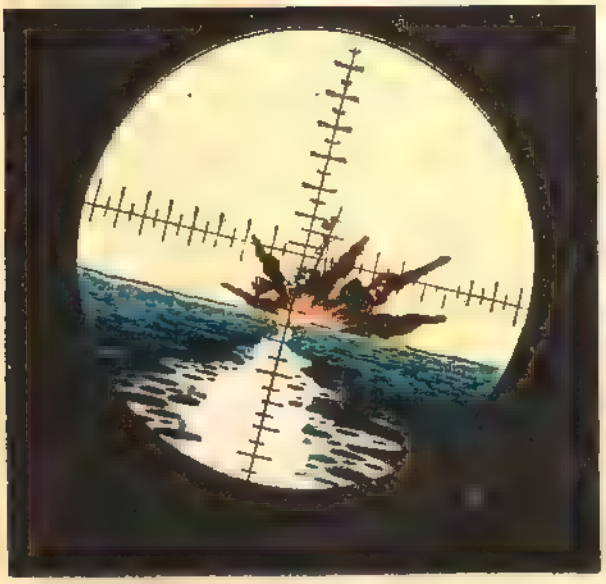
ON THE RED DESTROYER'S DECK, EAGER EYES WATCHED THE APPROACH OF THE *"INVINCIBLE"*...

YES, IT IS THE *"INVINCIBLE"*, THE AMERICAN SHIP THAT HAS BEEN A THORN IN OUR SIDES FOR SO LONG!
THIS TIME WE WILL *REMOVE* THAT THORN! THEY DO NOT KNOW THE TRAP THEY SAIL INTO!

LYING OFF THE BOW OF THE RED DESTROYER, SUBMERGED, WAS A RED SUB, A TIGER OF THE SEA, WAITING SILENTLY FOR THE PRIZE THAT CAME TOWARD IT...

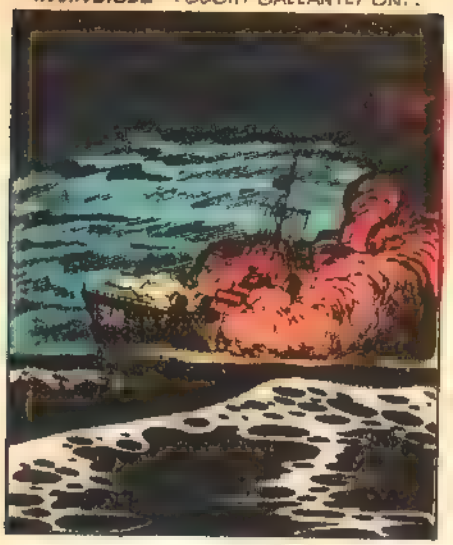


AND AS THE *"INVINCIBLE"* UNSUSPECTING, CAME IN TO DO BATTLE, THE SUB STRUCK.



WE'RE SHIPPING WATER BADLY, SIR, AND LISTING! FIRE HAS BROKEN OUT BELOW AND ON DECK! WHAT ORDERS, SIR?
KEEP FIGHTING! IT WILL BE DARK SOON AND WE MAY BE ABLE TO SLIP AWAY!

DARKNESS CAME GRADUALLY! THE "INVINCIBLE" FOUGHT GALLANTLY ON..

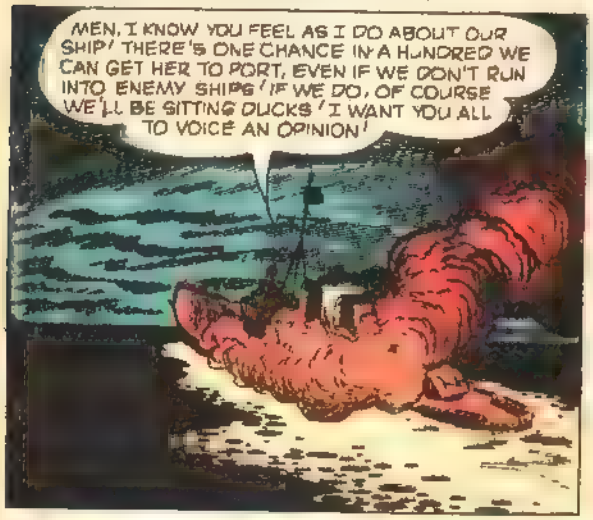


THE CAPTAIN OF THE RED SUB COMMUNICATED WITH HIS FELLOW COMMANDER ON THE DESTROYER...

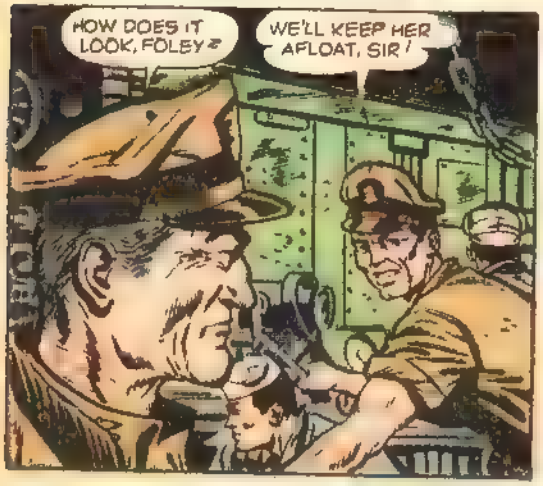
CAPTAIN, THE "INVINCIBLE" IS SINKING FAST! SOON THEY WILL ABANDON SHIP! WE HAVE LOOSED ALL OUR TORPEDOES! DO YOU WISH US TO SURFACE AND JOIN YOU WITH OUR DECK GUN?

MY COMPLIMENTS ON A FINE JOB! I DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE WISE TO STAY LONGER! A LUCKY SHOT FROM THE "INVINCIBLE" IN THE DARK MIGHT DO US DAMAGE! LET US LEAVE HER TO DIE!

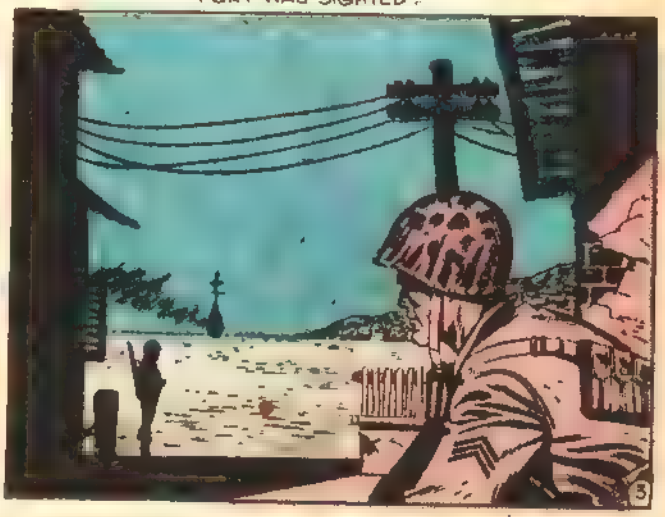
THE RED SUB AND DESTROYER SLIPPED QUIETLY AWAY IN THE DARKNESS! MEANWHILE, ON BOARD THE "INVINCIBLE," THE CAPTAIN ADDRESSED HIS MEN..


MEN, I KNOW YOU FEEL AS I DO ABOUT OUR SHIP! THERE'S ONE CHANCE IN A HUNDRED WE CAN GET HER TO PORT, EVEN IF WE DON'T RUN INTO ENEMY SHIPS! IF WE DO, OF COURSE WE'LL BE SITTING DUCKS! I WANT YOU ALL TO VOICE AN OPINION!

AND SO, SLOWLY, THE "INVINCIBLE" LIMPED BACK TOWARD PUSAN! SHE COULD SINK AT ANY MOMENT, AND IF SHE DID, THE MEN COULDN'T GET OFF IN TIME! IF A RED FIGHTING SHIP SIGHTED HER, THEY COULD SINK HER WITH ONE GOOD HIT



AND IF AN INANIMATE HULK OF METAL CAN BE SAID TO HAVE A HEART, IT WAS THIS THAT BROUGHT THE "INVINCIBLE" THRU. THIS AND THE MEN WHO LOVED HER AND NEVER SLEPT UNTIL PORT WAS SIGHTED.



THE CAPTAIN MADE HIS REPORT

BAD LUCK, CAPTAIN HALL! THE *"INVINCIBLE"* IS BEYOND REPAIR! WE WILL SALVAGE WHAT WE CAN TO USE ON OTHER SHIPS!

SIR, YOU *CAN'T* DO THAT! SHE CAN BE REPAIRED! I *KNOW* SHE CAN!

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, CAPTAIN, BUT IT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION!

BUT THE MEN, THE OFFICERS OF THE *"INVINCIBLE"* WOULDN'T GIVE UP! SINGLY AND IN A BODY THEY BEGGED PERMISSION FOR AN AUDIENCE AND SPOKE THEIR PIECE

PLEASE, SIR! WE'LL WORK TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY! WE KNOW OUR SHIP! WE KNOW SHE CAN BE FIXED TO SAIL AGAIN! WE CAN DO IT!

AND IN THE END, THEY HAD THEIR WAY! THE *"INVINCIBLE"* WAS UNDER REPAIR.

IT TOOK TIME, BUT THERE CAME A DAY WHEN THE *"INVINCIBLE"* STOOD PROUDLY AFLOAT AGAIN AND THE BOSUN PIPED HER GRINNING CREW ABOARD.

THE "OLD GIRL" LOOKS WONDERFUL!

WE'LL SHOW THEM!

SHE SAILED OUT OF PUSAN, HUNTING AGAIN

SIR, WE'VE GOT A BLIP ON RADAR!

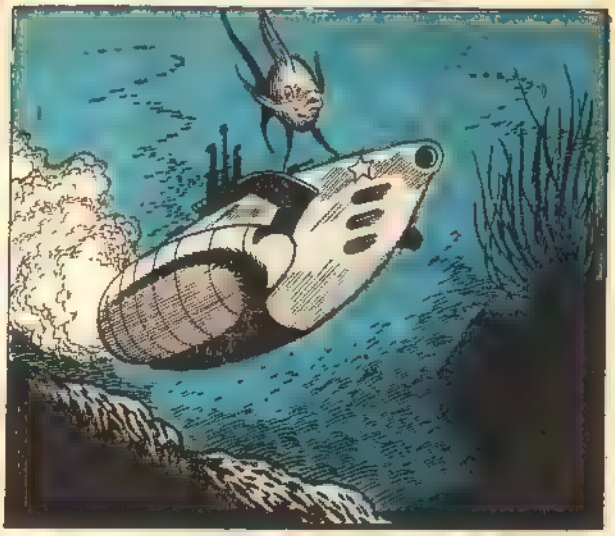
CHART YOUR COURSE, MISTER! BATTLE STATIONS! FULL SPEED AHEAD!

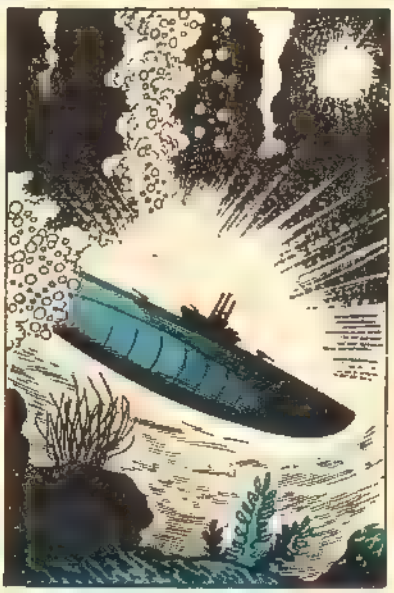
311

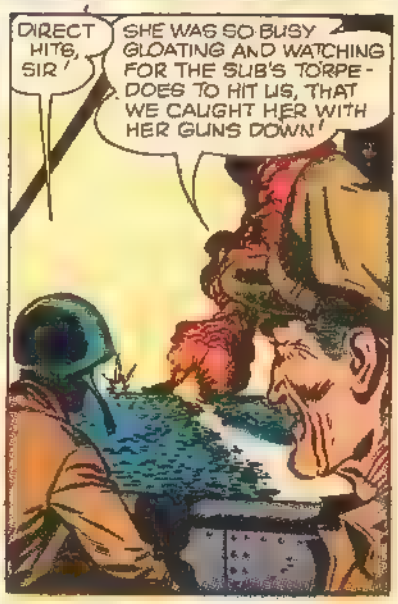
SIR, THAT LOOKS LIKE THE *SAME* ENEMY DESTROYER

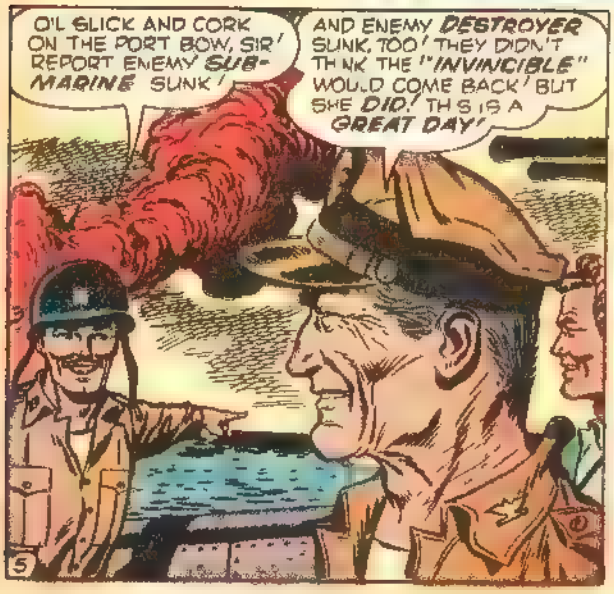
IT *IS!* AND PLAYING THE *SAME GAME!* BUT THIS TIME WE KNOW THE RULES! STAND BY FOR DEPTH CHARGES AND PICK UP THE POSITION OF THE SUB WE KNOW IS LYING IN WAIT, AS SOON AS SHE STARTS HER ENGINES!

AND BENEATH THE COVERING SEA, THE SILENT RED SUB SUDDENLY CHURNED TO LIFE...

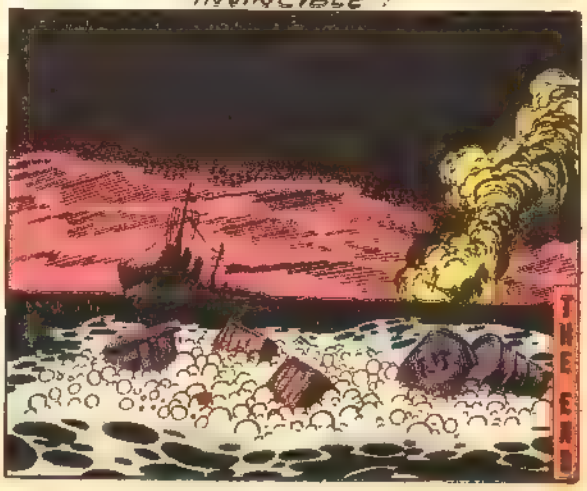





DIRECT HITS, SIR!
SHE WAS SO BUSY GLOATING AND WATCHING FOR THE SUB'S TORPEDOES TO HIT US, THAT WE CAUGHT HER WITH HER GUNS DOWN!


O'L SLICK AND CORK ON THE PORT BOW, SIR! REPORT ENEMY SUBMARINE SUNK!
AND ENEMY DESTROYER SUNK, TOO! THEY DIDN'T THINK THE "INVINCIBLE" WOULD COME BACK! BUT SHE DID! THIS IS A GREAT DAY!
5

PROUDLY, THE "INVINCIBLE" SPED AWAY FROM HER PREY! A SHIP WITH A PERSONALITY, A HEART, WITH OFFICERS AND CREW WHO FELT THAT HEART BEAT AND READ ITS MESSAGE! HAPPY HUNTING, "INVINCIBLE"!



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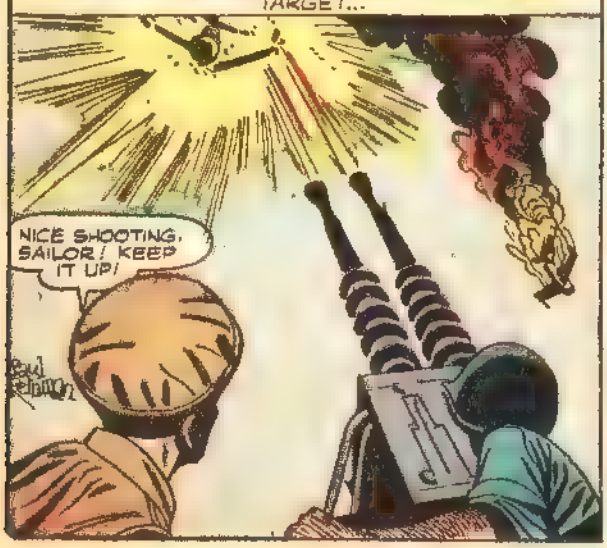
NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

IT HAPPENED AT THE HEIGHT OF THE KOREAN WAR, WHEN U.S. NAVY MIGHT AND RED CHINESE AIR POWER STRUGGLED FOR SUPREMACY! THEY WOULD COME WITHOUT WARNING, A SWARM OF MIGS DIVING DOWN FROM OUT OF THE KOREAN BLUE, THEIR ROCKETS CHURNING THE SEA INTO A BOILING FURY OF FLAMES AND SPRAY, WHILE THE AIR ROCKED TO THE THUNDEROUS BLASTS OF THE CARRIER'S GUNS!

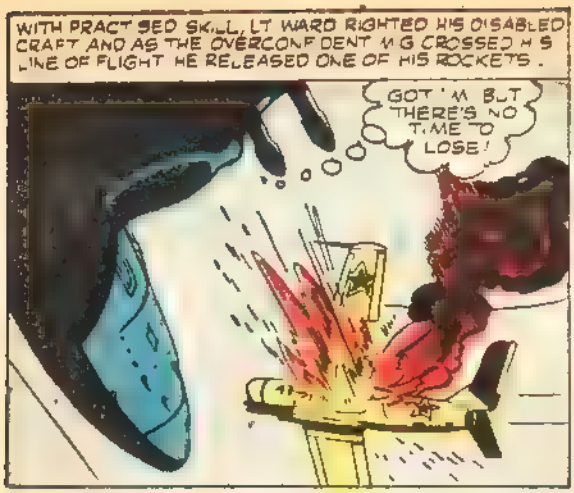
BOMBS AWAY!

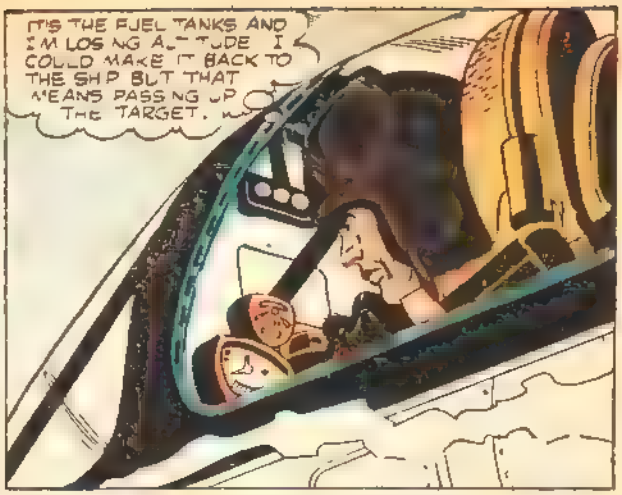
AGAIN AND AGAIN, NAVY GUNNERS FOUND THEIR TARGET...

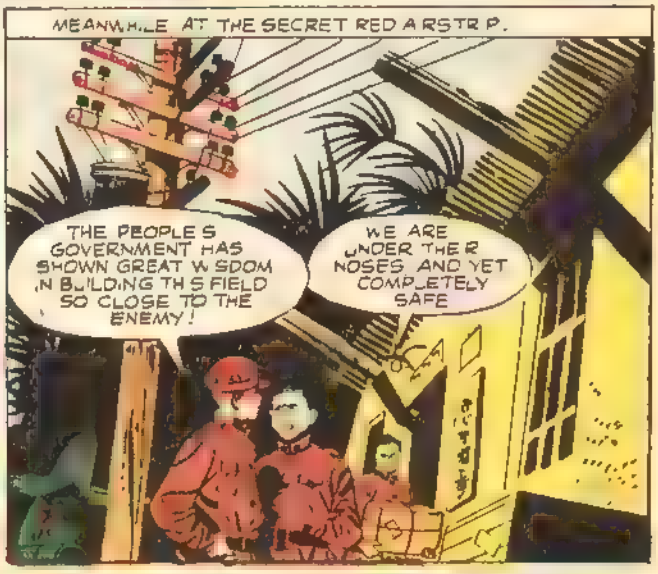


AND THEN AS SUDDENLY AS IT BEGAN, IT WAS OVER ..

TWO HOURS LATER BENEATH THE FLIGHT DECK COMMANDER HIGGINS AND A YOUNG PILOT HELD A GRIM MEETING
IT WON'T BE AN EASY TARGET, WARD, AND YOU'LL HAVE TO GO IT ALONE... TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE!
I UNDERSTAND SIR
OUR AIR RECONNAISSANCE CAME UP WITH THIS: THIS AIRSTRIP MUST BE THE FUELING POINT FOR THOSE MIG RAIDERS
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!
WE'VE GOT TO KNOCK IT OUT, OR OUR ENTIRE OPERATION MAY BE HELD UP INDEFINITELY! THAT PUTS IT SQUARELY UP TO YOU!
I'LL DO MY BEST, COMMANDER!
AT 0500 HOURS A SINGLE PLANE ROARED ACROSS THE FLIGHT DECK AND TOOK TO THE SKY. THE FIRST STEP IN LIEUTENANT WARD'S HAZARDOUS MISSION WAS NOW UNDER WAY...
BUT WHEN HE CROSSED THE PARALLEL INTO ENEMY TERRITORY
TWO MIGS AND THEY'VE GOT ME SPOTTED
LIKE ANGRY WASPS, THE TWIN KILLERS STRUCK BUT THROWING HIS CRAFT INTO A SUDDEN TURN, WARD GRASPED A STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE...
AND ANOTHER COMMIE BITES THE DUST
BUT A TRAGIC SECOND LATER
I'VE BEEN HIT!
12


WITH PRACTISED SKILL, LT WARD RIGHTED HIS DISABLED CRAFT AND AS THE OVERCONFIDENT MIG CROSSED HIS LINE OF FLIGHT HE RELEASED ONE OF HIS ROCKETS.
GOT 'IM BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE!




MEANWHILE AT THE SECRET RED ARSTRIP.
THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT HAS SHOWN GREAT WISDOM IN BUILDING THIS FIELD SO CLOSE TO THE ENEMY!
WE ARE UNDER THEIR NOSES AND YET COMPLETELY SAFE

SECONDS LATER THE AIR WAS MARKED WITH THE BLACK SAVAGE BURSTS OF A FURIOUS ANTI-AIRCRAFT BARRAGE.
STOP MISSING YOU FOOLS! BRING HIM DOWN.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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WE MUST CLEAR OUR SHELVES—regardless of cost! Take advantage of this unusual offer while it lasts. You must use the SPECIAL SALES COUPON below in order to get these SPECIAL PRICES!

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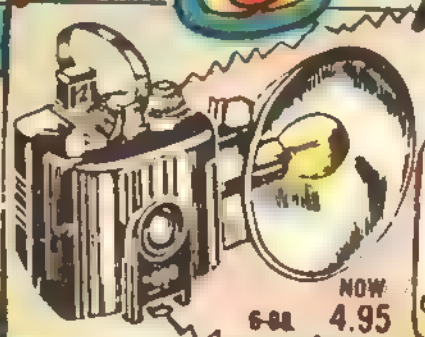

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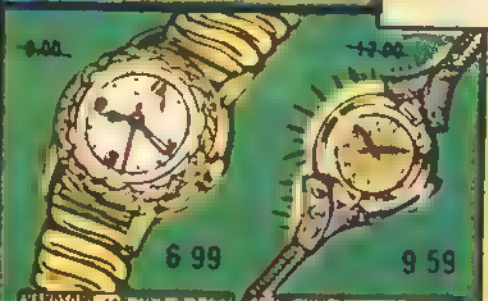

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TELLS
- TIME
- DATE
- SPEED
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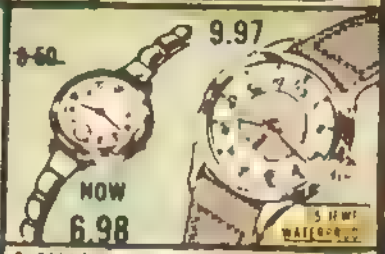

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HORSESHOE RING ... GOOD LUCK ... every one admires ... DIAMONDS ... 10K GOLD ... $3.98

3-COLOR FLASHLITE $2.24

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- SPOT or FLOODLIGHT
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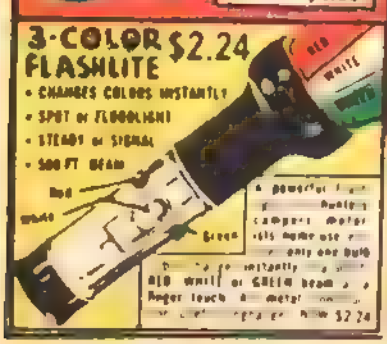

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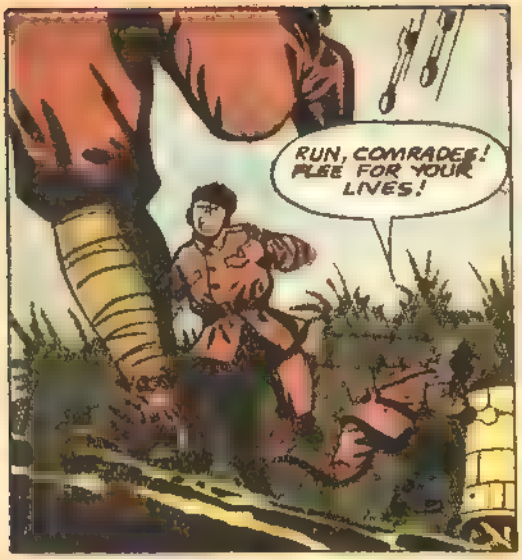
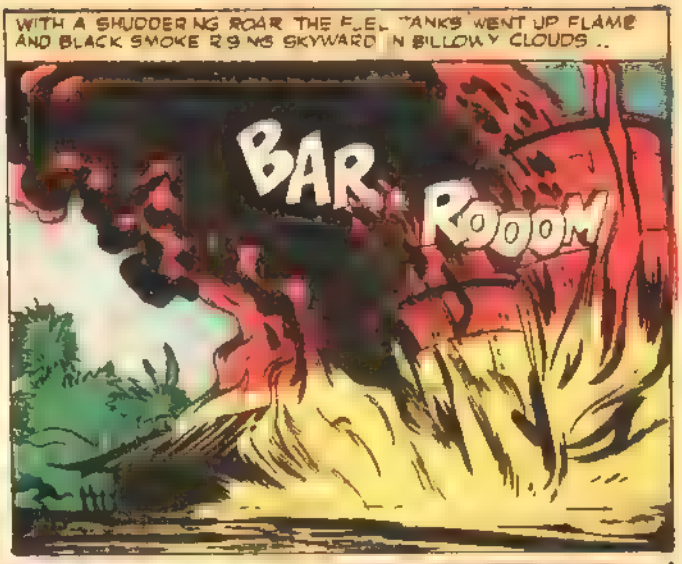
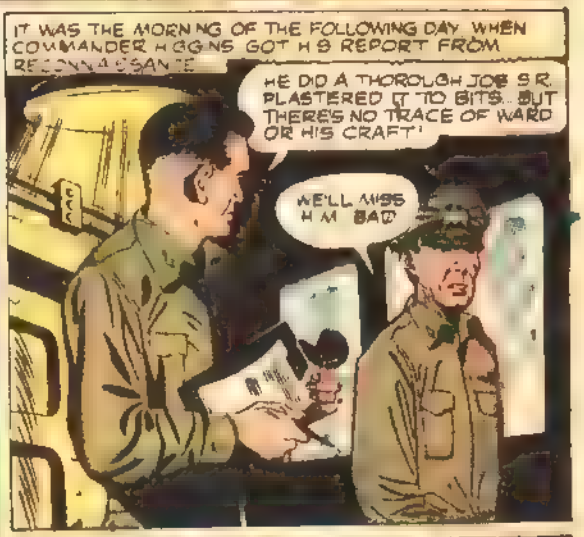

RUN, COMRADES! FLEE FOR YOUR LIVES!

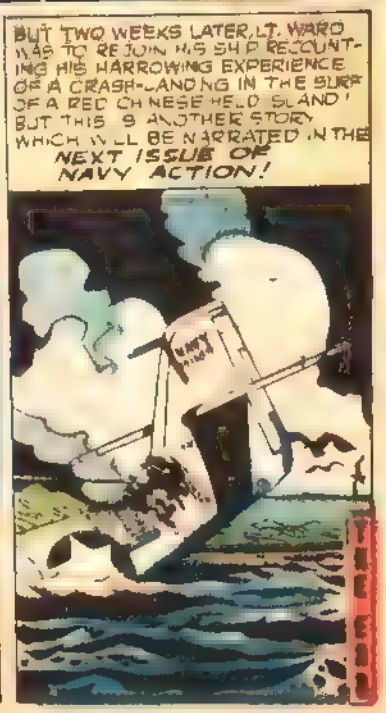

WITH A SHUDDERING ROAR THE FUEL TANKS WENT UP FLAME AND BLACK SMOKE RISING SKYWARD IN BILLOWY CLOUDS ..
BAR
ROOOOM

I'LL NEVER MAKE IT BACK! ALTIMETER DROPPING.. MUCH TOO FAST!

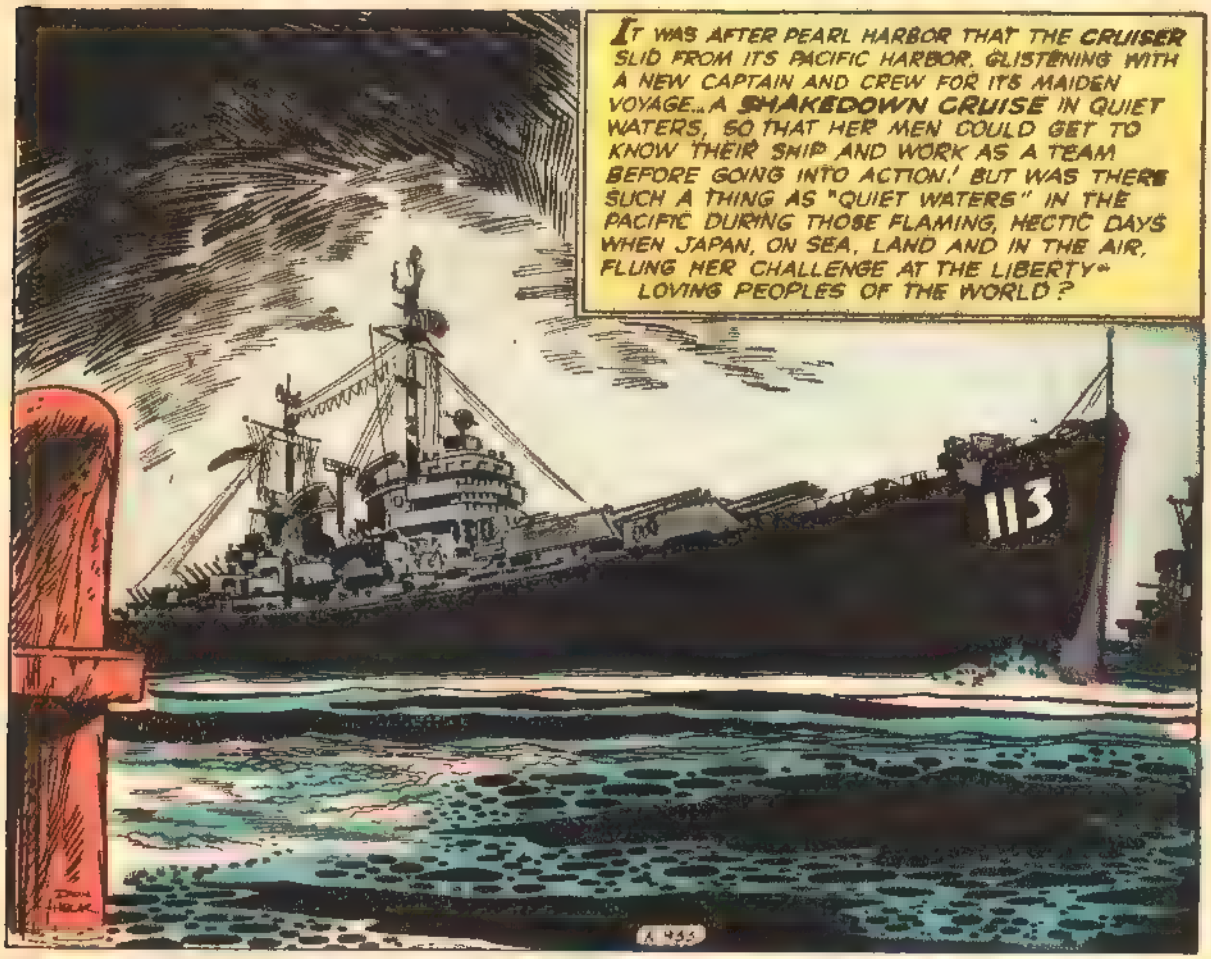

IT WAS THE MORNING OF THE FOLLOWING DAY WHEN COMMANDER HIGGINS GOT HIS REPORT FROM RECONNAISSANCE
HE DID A THOROUGH JOB SIR. PLASTERED IT TO BITS.. BUT THERE'S NO TRACE OF WARD OR HIS CRAFT!
WE'LL MISS HIM BAD

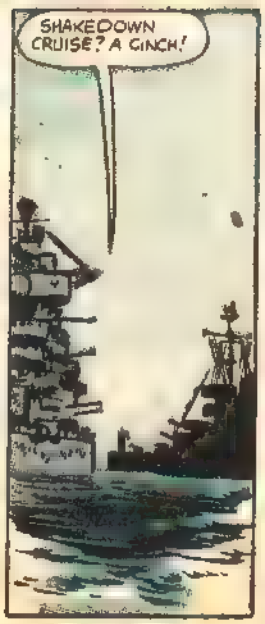
DURING THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED NO MIGS HARRASSED OFFSHORE CRAFT BUT FOR REASONS ONLY A FEW WERE AWARE OF.
NOW THERE'S A DETAIL I WOULDN'T MIND HAVING MATE!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!

THOSE SKY GUYS REALLY LIVE THE LIFE ALL THAT CLEAN SPACE TO MOVE AROUND IN MAN THAT'S LIVIN'!

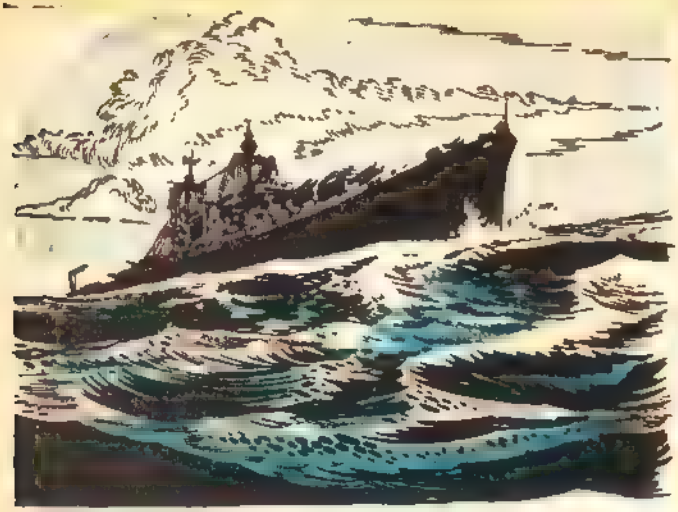

BUT TWO WEEKS LATER, LT. WARD WAS TO REJOIN HIS SHIP RECOUNTING HIS HARROWING EXPERIENCE OF A CRASH-LANDING IN THE SURF OF A RED CHINESE HELD ISLAND! BUT THIS IS ANOTHER STORY WHICH WILL BE NARRATED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF NAVY ACTION!

SHAKEDOWN CRUISE!


IT WAS AFTER PEARL HARBOR THAT THE CRUISER SLID FROM ITS PACIFIC HARBOR, GLISTENING WITH A NEW CAPTAIN AND CREW FOR ITS MAIDEN VOYAGE...A SHAKEDOWN CRUISE IN QUIET WATERS, SO THAT HER MEN COULD GET TO KNOW THEIR SHIP AND WORK AS A TEAM BEFORE GOING INTO ACTION! BUT WAS THERE SUCH A THING AS "QUIET WATERS" IN THE PACIFIC DURING THOSE FLAMING, HECTIC DAYS WHEN JAPAN, ON SEA, LAND AND IN THE AIR, FLUNG HER CHALLENGE AT THE LIBERTY-LOVING PEOPLES OF THE WORLD?
113
DON HECK

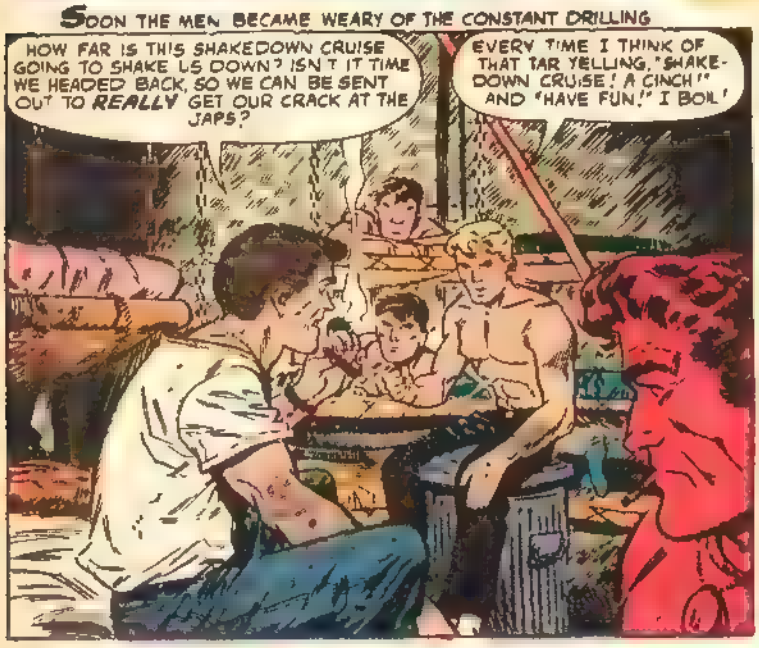


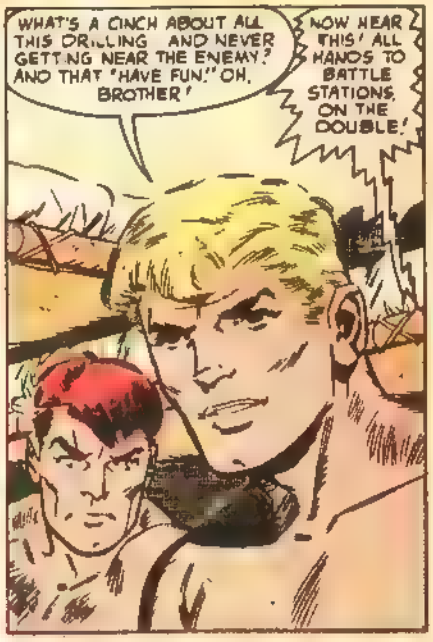
THE SHIP HEADED OUT FOR SEA' THE LAND BECAME A BLUR ON THE HORIZON. THEN VAN SHED COMPLETELY...

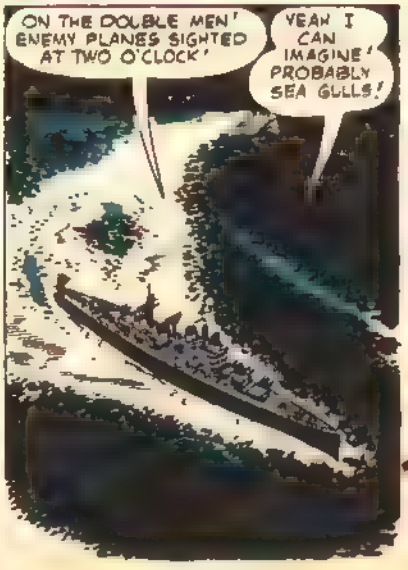


THE CRUISER HANDLED SMOOTHLY AND DAY AFTER DAY THE MEN WERE DRILLED

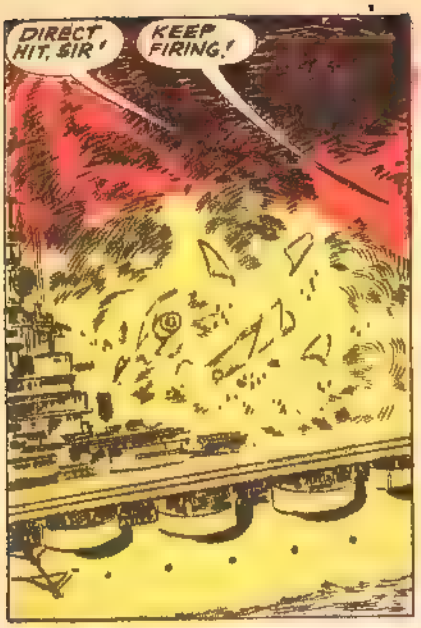
SOON THE MEN BECAME WEARY OF THE CONSTANT DRILLING

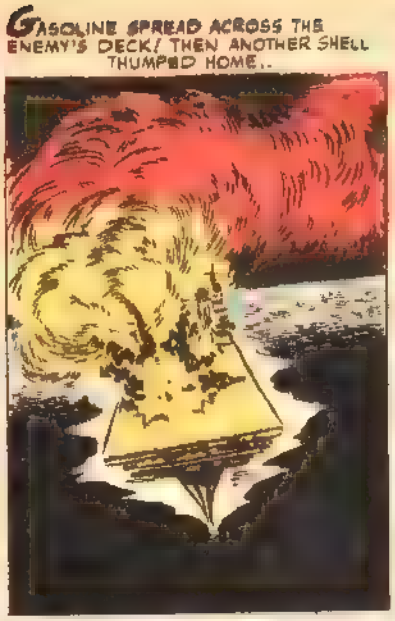

HOW FAR IS THIS SHAKEDOWN CRUISE GOING TO SHAKE US DOWN? ISN'T IT TIME WE HEADED BACK, SO WE CAN BE SENT OUT TO REALLY GET OUR CRACK AT THE JAPS?
EVERY TIME I THINK OF THAT TAR YELLING, "SHAKEDOWN CRUISE! A CINCH!" AND "HAVE FUN!" I BOIL!


WHAT'S A CINCH ABOUT ALL THIS DRILLING AND NEVER GETTING NEAR THE ENEMY? AND THAT "HAVE FUN!" OH, BROTHER!
NOW HEAR THIS! ALL HANDS TO BATTLE STATIONS, ON THE DOUBLE!



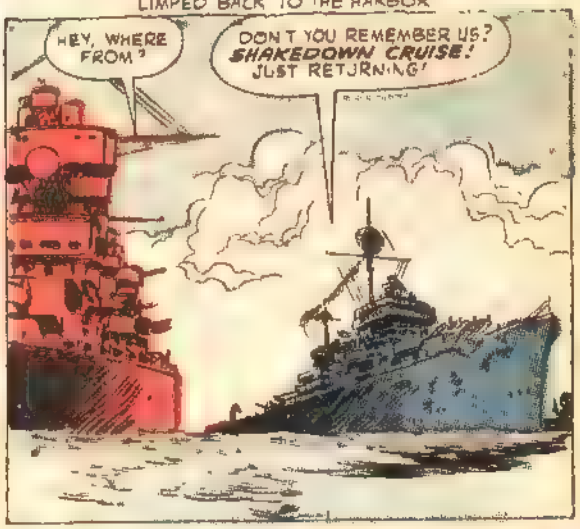
THEY CAME IN LIKE A SWARM OF HORNETS DIVING DIRECTLY AT THE SHIP
PICK THEM OFF! THEY'RE KAMIKAZE PILOTS! THEY'LL DIVE RIGHT ONTO THE DECK TO SMASH US!
I GOT HIM!
S R LARGE ENEMY AIRCRAFT CARRIER PICKED UP ON RADAR! COURSE ONE-FIVE-ZERO!
THAT MUST BE WHERE THESE PLANES CAME FROM! FIND EXACT POSITION. HANG ON. THE PLANES GOING TO HIT US!
CLEAR FORWARD DECK AND ESTIMATE DAMAGE!
THEY'RE GOING BACK FOR ANOTHER LOAD! WE WERE LUCKY THIS TIME BUT MIGHT NOT BE NEXT TIME! ONLY ONE THING TO DO! ATTACK THE CARRIER AND TRY TO CATCH THOSE PLANES STILL DECKED! FULL SPEED AHEAD!
WITH THE SPEED AND PRECISION THAT THE DRILLS HAD BROUGHT, THE DECK WAS CLEARED OF DEBRIS, AS THE CRUISER SPED TOWARD THE HUGE CARRIER!
NOW HEAR THIS! STAND BY AT BATTLE STATIONS! WE ARE GOING TO ATTACK!
IT WAS A DANGEROUS MANEUVER TO ATTEMPT EVEN WITHOUT A GREEN CREW AND A NEW SHIP! BUT THE CAPTAIN KNEW HE COULDN'T RUN FROM THE FAR-RANGING PLANES. THAT THIS WAS THEIR ONLY CHANCE!
3


DIRECT HIT, SIR!
KEEP FIRING!

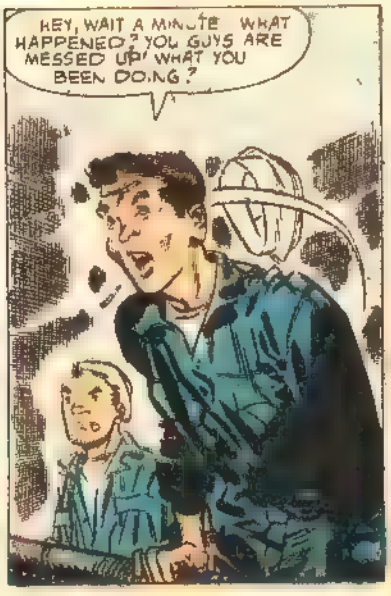

GASOLINE SPREAD ACROSS THE ENEMY'S DECK! THEN ANOTHER SHELL THUMPED HOME..

SHE'S GOING DOWN! SINK NG!
WE GOT HER! WE DID IT!
7

REPORT ALL DAMAGE! GET THE REPAIR CREW GOING! MISTER WE GOT A REAL SHIP AND A REAL CREW!
AYE AYE SIR!


HER 'SHAKEDOWN CRUISE' COMPLETED, THE CRUISER LIMPED BACK TO THE HARBOR
HEY, WHERE FROM?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER US? SHAKEDOWN CRUISE! JUST RETURNING!

OH YEAH! SHAKEDOWN CRU SE! A CINCH!


HEY, WAIT A MINUTE WHAT HAPPENED? YOU GUYS ARE MESSED UP! WHAT YOU BEEN DO.NG?

NOTHING MUCH! JUST "HAV NG FUN"!
THE END

HERE IS THE KIND OF HE-MAN BODY YOU CAN HAVE!

WHAT'S THE SECRET?

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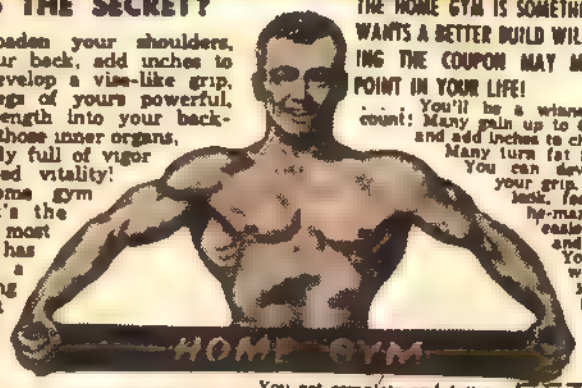

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..CONTINUED

Now the Arethusa was passing Steppington Lighthouse. In the east the sky was lightening. A few moments more, now, and the sun would be up . . . invisible, of course, he mused, for the day was dawning gray. The thought was not cheerful. On a gray day a ship, any ship, camouflaged or not, was a sitting duck for a submarine.

Lights flashed from the lighthouse. Captain Stanley stepped to the port lantern and replied, giving the harbor code-word. The lighthouse flashed the all clear. Then the Arethusa plowed out into the turbulent waters of the Channel and bore northeast-by-east. Brassard silently handed the charts of the Hartlepool minefields to the Captain who locked them away in a safe. For the present his job was over.

He stood at the bridge and stared at the Channel. At eight breakfast was served. Then the ship seemed suddenly to come to life. Sailors jumped to stations on the deck. Nets were hauled up through a central hatch, and heaved overboard. With the Arethusa describing a shallow circle, the nets followed. Half an hour later they were drawn in, loaded with fish. Ton after ton went into the hold. Brassard watching, remained puzzled. The ship was going about its business as though a war in Europe hadn't been going on for over two years, as though there were no Imperial High Seas Fleet at Heligoland, waiting to pounce. His eyes searched the Channel. Nowhere in sight was anything resembling an escort, a convoy of armed craft. Yet the Arethusa placidly plowed the waters. On deck its crew worked smoothly, silently and efficiently at the work for which the trawler had been intended. By noon he estimated that half the hold must be filled with fish.

Over lunch he asked the Captain, "Are we returning to port, sir? I mean, I have no idea how long a trawler stays at sea after her hold is filled. And we'll fill this one, soon."

"A good question, Mr. Brassard," Captain Stanley said. "But one which I can't answer, until . . ."

A whistle blew, then another. The Captain sprang to his feet.

"Until now!" he exclaimed. "If all goes well, we'll be back in Hartlepool by morning! We've been sighted by a German submarine!"

The Arethusa's engines slowed in response to a message to the engine room. Brassard came over to the starboard side

of the bridge. Wedgley and Captain Stanley were looking at the submarine. It lay a mile off, its nose toward them, coming nearer.

"Would they waste a torpedo on us?" Brassard asked.

"Don't forget," Captain Stanley said softly, "we're a trawler, a food ship, bringing sustenance to England. If they can sink us, or capture us, they've harmed England by that much." He kept staring at the approaching U-boat. It was much nearer, now. Brassard could see it turning into torpedo-firing position. He sighed. They would not be captured. They would be sunk. Again he glanced up and down the Channel. No armor d craft to the rescue. Nothing.

Stanley glanced at his watch, then at the submarine once more. It came closer and closer. "They'll try to board, first, for a search, then sink us." He looked at Wedgley and smiled. "They'll *try*."

"*Try?*" Brassard asked. "They will do it, surely, won't they?"

Suddenly, Captain Stanley depressed a switch on the bridge wall. Again the sirens wailed. The decks were suddenly empty. And then, to Brassard's amazement, before his very eyes, the Arethusa seemed to disintegrate. But it was *not* disintegrating. Whole sections of the top deck fell back with a clash of metal. The black muzzles of naval rifles poked out. He held his breath. Then: BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The U-boat staggered in its forward stride. One shot raced across her bows. Another ripped a hole in her bow. A third disabled the German's rudder. And two minutes later, a white flag broke from her diving bridge. The U-boat was surrendering!

Captain Stanley turned to the astonished Brassard.

"You're aboard a "Q" ship, Mr. Brassard. Couldn't tell you before, since you signed on at the last moment and hadn't been thoroughly briefed. The "Q" ship is our new anti-sub weapon . . . ostensibly a trawler, but with the outer sections of the hold crammed with concealed cannon. Once the sub gets within range, we drop our disguise." The Captain smiled. He indicated a prize crew going overboard in a small boat to take the sub's surrender. "They'll bring her into Hartlepool."

"And the hold full of fish?" Brassard asked, chuckling.

"We combine business with pleasure," Captain Stanley said. "England can use the fish as well as the sub!"

THE END G-625

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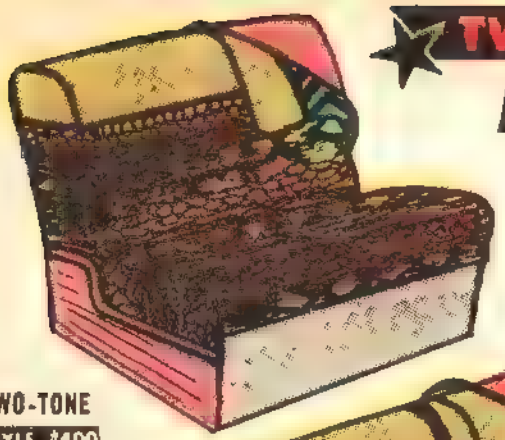

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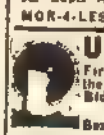

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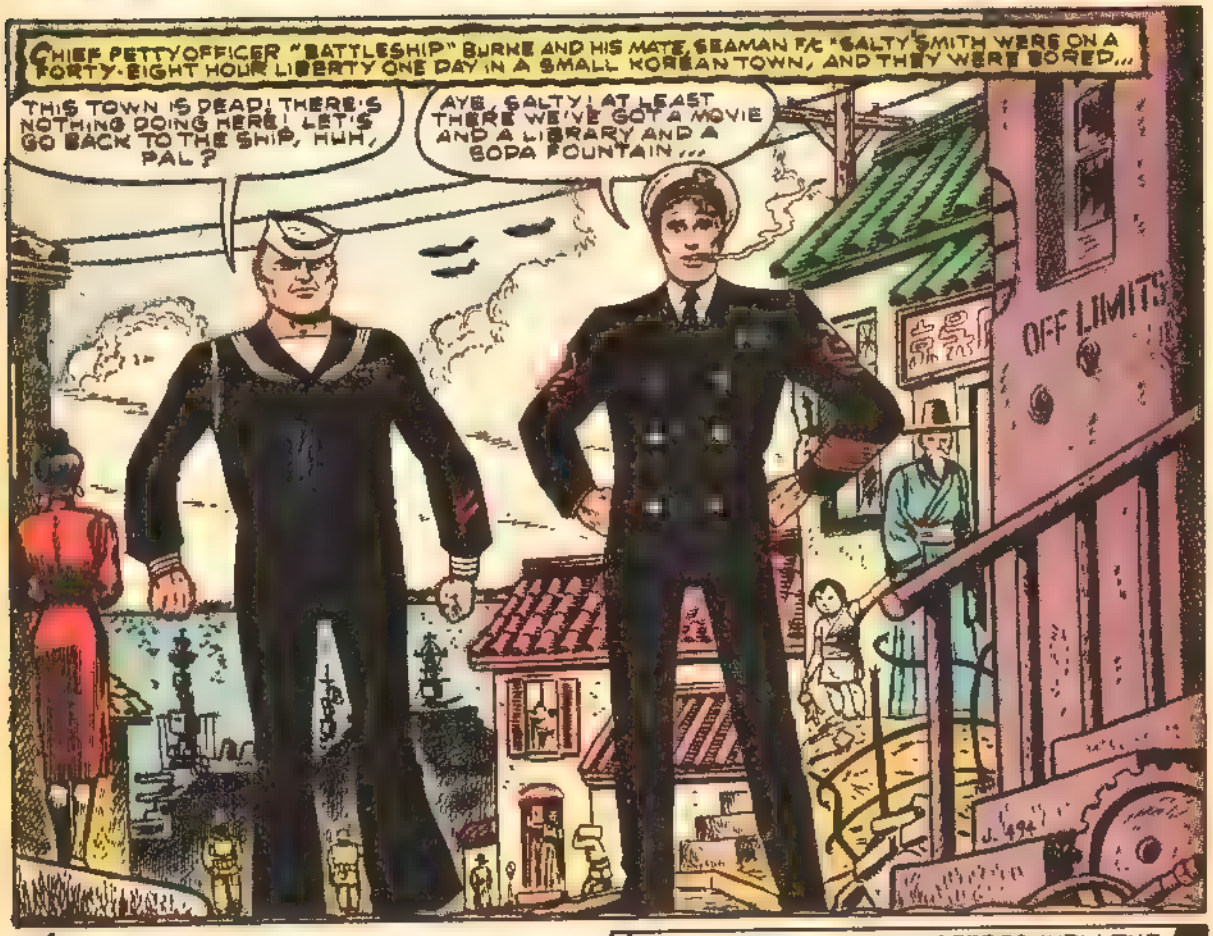
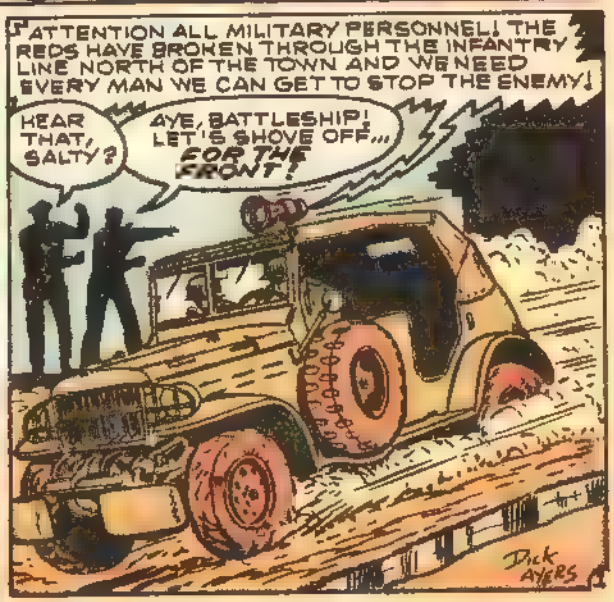
"BATTLESHIP" BURKE


CHIEF PETTY OFFICER "BATTLESHIP" BURKE AND HIS MATE, SEAMAN F/C "SALTY" SMITH WERE ON A FORTY-EIGHT HOUR LIBERTY ONE DAY IN A SMALL KOREAN TOWN, AND THEY WERE BORED...
THIS TOWN IS DEAD! THERE'S NOTHING DOING HERE! LET'S GO BACK TO THE SHIP, HUH, PAL?
AYE, SALTY! AT LEAST THERE WE'VE GOT A MOVIE AND A LIBRARY AND A SODA FOUNTAIN...
OFF LIMITS


"ATTENTION ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL! THE REDS HAVE BROKEN THROUGH THE INFANTRY LINE NORTH OF THE TOWN AND WE NEED EVERY MAN WE CAN GET TO STOP THE ENEMY!
HEAR THAT, SALTY?
AYE, BATTLESHIP! LET'S SHOVE OFF... FOR THE FRONT!
DICK AYERS

U.S. ARMY TRUCKS COLLECTED THE TWO SAILORS AND G.I.'S ON PASS...

AND AROUND TOWN THEY PICKED UP BRITISH SOLDIERS ON LEAVE...

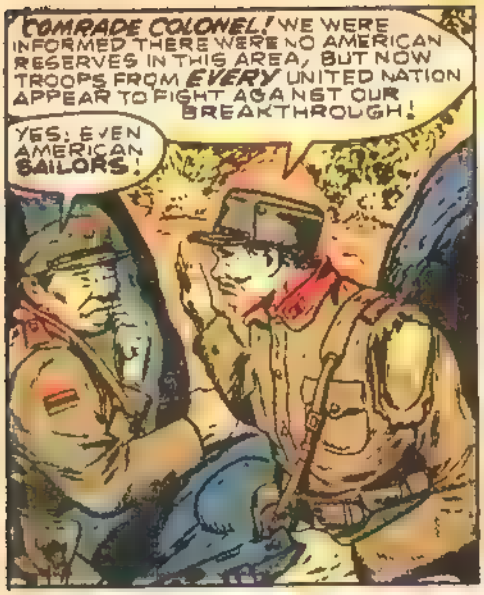
THEY GATHERED UP SOME OF EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE'S IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN TROOPS, TOO...

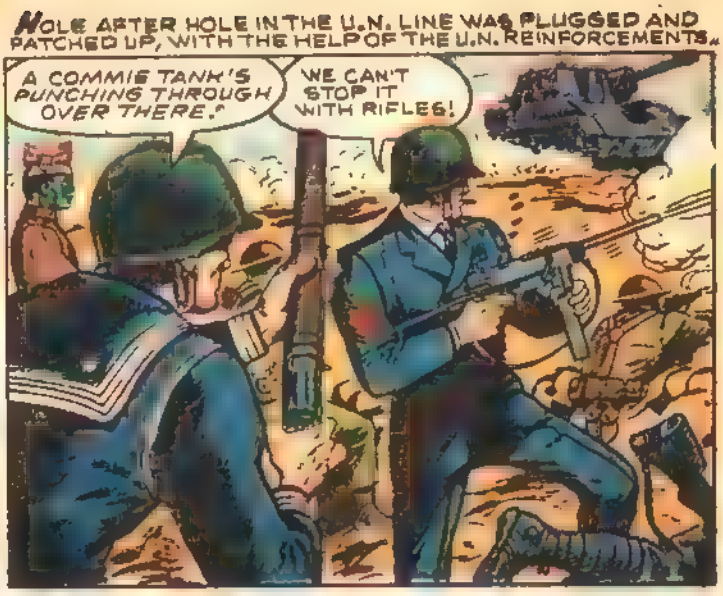
AND A COUPLE OF BIG-MOUSTACHED TURKS DIDN'T HAVE TO BE ASKED TWICE EITHER...

THE G.I. TRUCKS WERE FILLED AS THEY ROARED TOWARD THE FRONT...

AND AT THE FRONT, THERE WERE PLENTY OF GUNS AND AMMO TO GO AROUND!

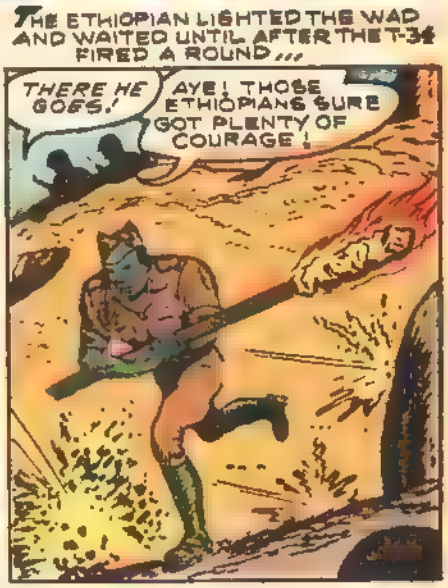
A SHORT TIME LATER, THE TWO GOBS WERE IN THE THICK OF THE BATTLING...

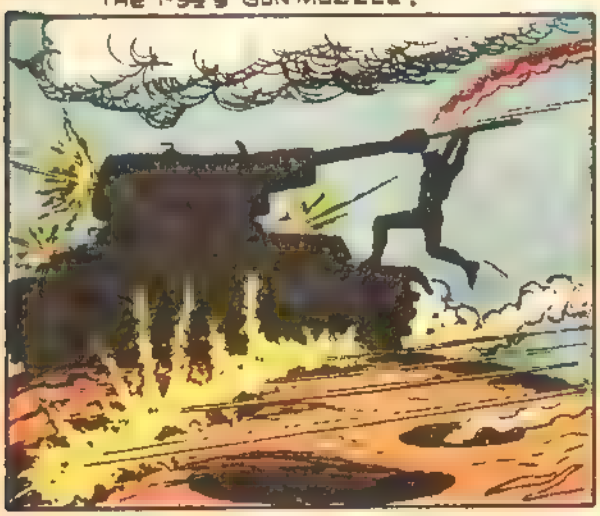

COMRADE COLONEL! WE WERE INFORMED THERE WERE NO AMERICAN RESERVES IN THIS AREA, BUT NOW TROOPS FROM EVERY UNITED NATION APPEAR TO FIGHT AGAINST OUR BREAKTHROUGH!
YES; EVEN AMERICAN SAILORS!

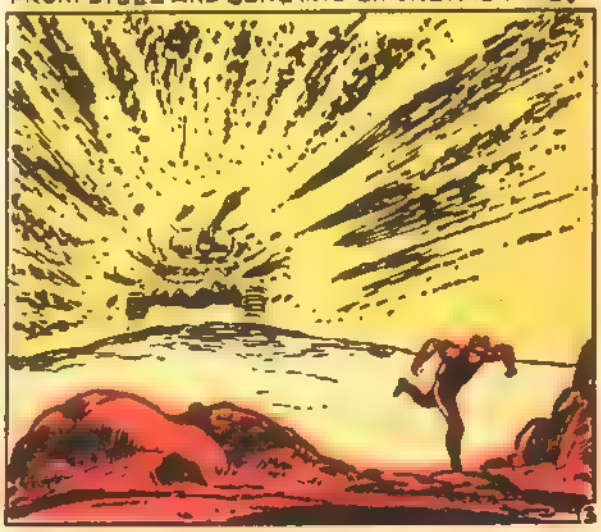

MOLE AFTER HOLE IN THE U.N. LINE WAS PLUGGED AND PATCHED UP, WITH THE HELP OF THE U.N. REINFORCEMENTS...
A COMMIE TANK'S PUNCHING THROUGH OVER THERE!
WE CAN'T STOP IT WITH RIFLES!

BUT WE CAN STOP IT WITH A FIRE STICK... AS MY FATHER DID IN WAR AGAINST MUSSOLINI WHEN HIS TANKS ATTACKED OUR COUNTRY!
WHAT'S HE WRAPPING HIS JACKET AROUND THAT POLE FOR?

NOW HE'S POURING GASOLINE OVER IT! WHY?
HE'S GOING TO USE IT AS A FLAMING RAMROD AGAINST THE TANK'S GUN! WE'LL GIVE HIM COVER!

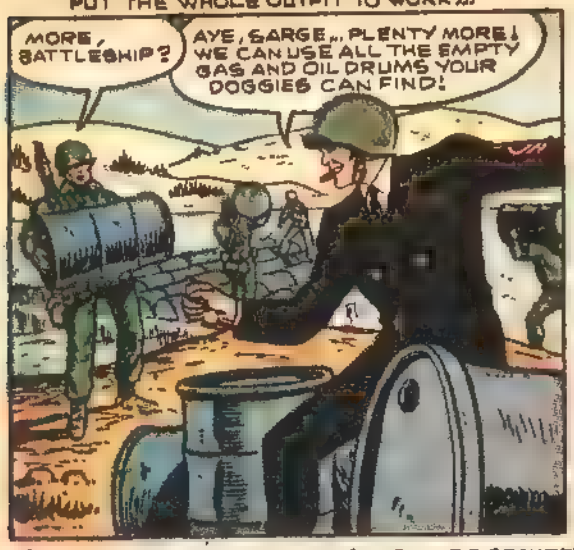

THE ETHIOPIAN LIGHTED THE WAD AND WAITED UNTIL AFTER THE T-34 FIRED A ROUND...
THERE HE GOES!
AYE! THOSE ETHIOPIANS SURE GOT PLENTY OF COURAGE!


DURING THE SECONDS IT TOOK THE RED TANK CREW TO RELOAD, THE ETHIOPIAN RAMMED HIS BLAZING RAMROD DEEP INTO THE THROAT OF THE T-34'S GUN MUZZLE!


THEN HE SCRAMMED, AND BEHIND HIM THE COMMIE TANK WAS SUDDENLY TRANSFORMED FROM STEEL AND GUNS INTO SMOKE AND FIRE!

NICE WORK, ALL OF YOU; THAT WAS THE LAST COMMIE HOLE! WE'VE PLUGGED UP THE RED BREAKTHROUGH AND STOPPED THEM!
YOU MEAN THE FIGHTING IS ALL OVER, CAP'N? WE'VE GOT MORE'N THIRTY HOURS LEFT OF OUR LIBERTY!
THEN STICK AROUND, SAILORS... BECAUSE NOW WE'RE GOING TO TRY TO SMASH THROUGH THE COMMIE LINE AND THERE'S GOING TO BE PLENTY OF ACTION!
WE'RE READY FOR IT, CAP'N, ANYTIME YOU PIPE US!
CAPTAIN REGAN ORDERED THE ASSAULT IMMEDIATELY, AND THE U.N. SOLDIERS HIT THE RED LINE WITH EVERYTHING!
WILL WE BE ABLE TO HOLD AGAINST THIS POWERFUL ASSAULT, COMRADE COLONEL?
WE MUST! IF OUR LINE IS BREACHED, OUR HALF OF KOREA WILL BE LOST!
THE TWO FORCES CLASHED, AND IN THE FURY THAT FOLLOWED, ALL RULES OF WAR WERE FORGOTTEN...
FOUR HOURS LATER, THE U.N. GUYS OBEYED THE ORDER THAT SWEPT THROUGH THEIR RANKS...
WITHDRAW?
YEAH, SAILOR! THEM'S CAPTAIN REGAN'S ORDERS!
IF HITTING THE RED LINE HEAD-ON IS NO GOOD, CAP'N, WHY DON'T WE SLAM AT THEM FROM THE FLANKS?
BECAUSE THERE ARE RIVERS ON BOTH SIDES, AND THEY'RE WIDE AND ROUGH AND WE DON'T HAVE BOATS!
THEN LET'S BUILD ONE, SIR... BIG ENOUGH TO CARRY HALF THE OUTFIT, AND WE'LL MAKE AN INVASION BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES!
HUH?

"BATTLESHIP" BURKE WASN'T SCUTTLEBUTTING! AS SOON AS HE GOT THE CAPTAIN'S OKAY, HE PUT THE WHOLE OUTFIT TO WORK...



THE SAILORS, DOGGIES AND U.N. SOLDIERS WORKED FOR TWO HOURS LASHING TOGETHER THE HUNDREDS OF GAS AND OIL DRUMS...

AND NOW SHE'S FINISHED! ISN'T SHE A BEAUT, CAP'N?
AND AS BIG AS A BATTLESHIP, SAILOR! LET'S MOUNT THE MACHINE GUNS ON IT AND WE'LL BE READY TO LAUNCH HER!

AS SOON AS THE MACHINE GUNS WERE SECURED, THE GAS-DRUM BATTLESHIP WAS LAUNCHED AND THE MEN PILED ON...

OKAY, SAILOR! THE HALF OF MY COMPANY THAT'RE GOING ARE ALL ABOARD!
THEN WE'RE SHOVING OFF! AND THE RIVER'S SWIFT CURRENT WILL TAKE US DOWN RIVER AT TEN KNOTS!

DOWN THE RIVER SPED THE BATTLEFIELD-MADE WARSHIP, AND THE FIRST THE REDS HEARD OF IT WAS WHEN THE MACHINE GUNS ABOARD OPENED UP AS THE TIN-CAN CRAFT PASSED THEM!

BUT THE RIVER FLOWED FASTER THAN THE REDS COULD RUN, AND IT CARRIED THE G.I.-LOADED RAFT FAR BEHIND THE RED LINES...

THIS IS WHERE WE HEAVE ANCHOR AND INVADE! ALL ASHORE!
THE REDS'LL FIGHT LIKE TRAPPED RATS WHEN WE COME UP FROM BEHIND AND THE REST OF THE OUTFIT HITS THEM FROM THE FRONT!

BUT THERE WAS NO BATTLE!

WELL, OUR LIBERTY'S ABOUT UP, CAP'N, SO WE'VE GOT TO BE SHOVING OFF!
OKAY, SAILORS... AND IF YOU EVER WANT TO JOIN THE ARMY, LOOK ME UP!
THE END

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